

Fort Riley,
Building # 162
162 Schofield Circle
Fort Riley
Riley County
Kansas

HABS No. KS-54- I

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. KS-54-I

FORT RILEY, BUILDING # 162

Location: 162 Schofield Circle, Fort Riley, Riley County, Kansas.

USGS Junction City Quadrangle Universal Mercator
Coordinates: 14.692025.4326750

Present Owner: Department of the Army

Present Occupant: Col. William T. Zaldo and family

Present Use: Family officers quarters

Significance: Building # 162, built in 1907, is located on Schofield Circle, and is one of fifteen officers residences constructed in a horseshoe pattern bordering on the Artillery Parade Field. Erected in the period 1887 to 1909, these residences housed artillery officers and their families. The street was named for Major General J.M. Schofield who played a significant role in establishing the artillery school at Fort Riley. The street's orientation away from the cavalry parade suggests the fort's new role as a training school during the late-nineteenth century. Building # 162 was one of the last residences built on Schofield Circle. It was pre-dated by two years by Buildings # 170 and # 171. Building # 162, however, has special significance. During its early years it served as bachelor officer's quarters (BOQ) and from 1918 to 1936 it housed the fort's doctor and family. After 1936 it housed the doctor on an intermittent basis. Also, Building # 162 is one of only a couple of officer's quarters on the fort with a dentiled cornice. This Georgian detail stood against the fort's more general movement away from ornamentation during the early-twentieth century as plain, functional windows and porches had begun to replace more elaborate, decorative features that graced the buildings during the previous years.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Date of erection: 1907 is the date given on the Real Property Cards and the Engineer's Historical Record Book, both located in the Directorate of Engineering and Housing Office (DEH), and also on the Housing Office Quarters List.

2. Architect: Unknown. Undated plans with the initials "QMGO" (Quartermaster General's Office) originated in Washington, D.C. W.F. Pride in his History of Fort Riley indicates that bids were advertised in the local area, suggesting that local contractors and local materials were used to construct the quarters (Pride, p. 213).
3. Original and subsequent owners: Originally Building # 162 was owned by the Department of War which became the Department of the Army in 1947.
4. Builders and suppliers:
 - a. Builders: Building # 162 was built by civilian labor.
 - b. Suppliers: All limestone was quarried locally. There is no indication of where the woodwork originated, however the lack of timber in the area suggests that it was imported from outside regions.
5. Original plans and construction: Any original plans and drawings existing for this building would be located at the National Archives, in record group 92, Washington, D.C. Building # 162 was a part of a layout plan drawn by Capt. George E. Pond, Quartermaster at Fort Riley from 1885-1891. Located in the DEH are blue prints for "Quarters for Field Officer" dated April 1905. These drawings include complete floor plans along with front and rear porch details. These may be either original plans or copies of the originals. Also located at DEH are plans of "Proposed Alterations" date July 10, 1937. Finally, there is an early photograph of Building # 162 located in the Engineer's Historical Record Book, taken possibly during the 1930's. The Real Property Cards (DEH) gives an original cost of \$15,823.53.
6. Alterations and additions: Plans dated July 10, 1937 entitled "Proposed Additions" show the second floor to have had some alterations. The front, centrally located dressing room was converted into a bathroom, and the rear left bathroom became a storage area. Also, a bathroom was added to the attic space centrally located on the rear wall covering the two windows. The 1937 plans also call for a garage to be constructed on the rear elevations's west side (See HABS photo # KS-54-I-4). This may have been a WPA project (See Junction City Union, Aug. 16, 1938). The Engineer's Historical Record Book shows that it was completed in August of 1940. There is no documentation that suggests when these changes occurred, but at some point after 1907 the kitchen hearth was covered over (the chimney block is visible) and the

second floor, right bathroom was renovated, its hall doorway was covered over and new doorways, opening into the bedrooms on either side, were constructed. Originals plans dated 1905 suggest that the residence had a front porch with rounded posts. Currently the front porch has squared posts and a concrete floor. Though no dates were found for this change, similar alterations for other houses occurred in the late-1930's. The front porch alterations definitely occurred after 1930 as the old porch shows up in the Engineers Historical Record Book photograph. Finally, the fixtures, cabinets in the kitchen and bathrooms are modern as are the floors throughout the house (date unknown). The bookcase in the library was constructed prior to 1910 according to the Engineer's historical Record Book and probably is original.

- B. Historical Context: Building # 162 was built in 1907 at the tail end of a construction boom that followed the fort's conversion to a training center for the cavalry and field artillery officers. In 1887 Congress passed a bill which led to the creation of the School of Application for Cavalry and Light Artillery at Fort Riley. Col. James W. Forsyth of the 7th Cavalry organized the school. Officers in the Artillery School resided along Schofield Circle and though Building # 162 was initially designated for field officers, it housed the fort's doctor from 1918 to 1936, and intermittently thereafter. (For more information on the Light Artillery and Cavalry School see Pride, The History of Fort Riley, pages 187, 190, 193, 213, 217, 218, 220, 221, 236, 247-8, 289).

PART I: ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural character: Building # 162 was one of the later residences built for the light artillery school officers and their families. Constructed in 1907, its rock-faced, machine-cut limestone walls contrasted with the smooth-faced limestone walls of the fort's early buildings. Its plain exterior, save a dentiled cornice, reflected the army's movement away from ornamentation and towards more functional and economical buildings.
2. Condition of fabric: The exterior structure is in excellent condition and there have been few alterations besides the addition of a two-car garage and new front and rear porches. In the interior, old moldings and stone hardware remain, along with old built-in cabinets, however the fireplaces have been remodeled somewhat (ie., new metal brackets under the mantel).

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: Building # 162 is a two and half-story rectangular cross-gable single family residence with a rear wing. The main block is 42' 4 " x 28' 4". The two and a half story rear wing is slightly lower and measures 27' x 22'. The main block is four bays by two bays with a three bay facade pavilion to the right side of the symmetrical front. The rear wing is three bays wide by two bays deep.
2. Foundations: The foundation is of rock-faced ashlar limestone, approximately twenty inches thick and four courses in height, topped with a single coursed, smooth-faced limestone water table (See HABS photo # KS-54-I-3). However, the facade's foundation appears to be of hammered limestone.
3. Wall construction: The unadorned limestone walls are approximately thirteen inches thick and made of rock-faced ashlar limestone.
4. Structural system and framing: The limestone walls are load-bearing and support floors and partition walls which rest on the wooden floor structure. Partition walls are nine inches thick in the cellar and vary from six to twelve inches in thickness throughout the rest of the house. Also, blue prints indicate that in the cellar there is an 8" x 12" support girder running north to south in the west front room.
5. Porches: Building # 162 has a ten foot wide "L" porch that runs across the facade and to the middle of the west side elevation (See HABS photo # KS-54-I-1). There is a rectangular porch on the east side of the rear wing, 8' 3" x 19". Both porches have concrete floors supported by rock-faced limestone piers, frame ceilings, and squared posts. The front porch is screened on the west side but open on the east side and has a three-rail balustrade with an extended edge on the top. The rear porch has a metal rail with three cross bars and an acorn-like decorative knob atop the vertical bar.
6. Chimneys: The main block has three interior, brick, rectangular chimneys with beveled edges and corbelled courses near the top of the shaft with a concrete cap. The chimney on the front slope of the main block's west side services the library while the chimney on the front slope of the main block's east side services the parlor. The central chimney near the ridge on the back slope of the main block services the dining room. Finally, there is a smaller, similarly styled, interior chimney on the rear wing's gable end that services the kitchen but is now covered over.

7. Openings:

- a. Doorways and doors: The double-doored main entry, left of the pavilion, has a single, upper glass panel and two lower wooden panels and a four-light transom with a smooth-faced limestone lintel. The two-paneled wooden door to the rear wing's east side porch has a four-light upper pane and a three-light transom topped by a smooth-faced limestone lintel. The doors have plain brass hardware. The porch entry on the west side elevation is a two-paneled wooden door with a single upper glass light, a three-light transom and a smooth-faced stone lintel. There is a cellar door on the west side of the rear wing.
- b. Windows: All windows on the main block are six over two sash and those in the three gable ends are slightly smaller. All have smooth-faced limestone lintels and sills (See HABS photo # KS-54-I-2 & 3). The rear wing windows on the gable end are four over two sash. The rear wing window on the east side elevation is slightly larger than the first story while the window on the rear wing's west side elevation is a two-paneled wooden door with a single upper glass light, a three-light transom and a smooth-faced stone lintel. There is a cellar door on the west side of the rear wing.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape and covering: Building # 162 has a cross-gable roof with composition shingles. The Engineer's Historical Record Book indicates that during the 1930's the house had a slate roof.
- b. Cornice and eaves: Building # 162 has a plain raking return box cornice with cyma reversa crown molding above a plain fascia. Dentils line the frieze below the soffit. Dentiled eaves overhang one foot all around the house (See HABS photo # KS-54-I-2).

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: # 162 Schofield Circle is entered at a central vestibule, through two sets of double-doors, into the stair hall (See HABS photo # KS-54-I-6). To the west is the library (13'5" x 14'5") with a door on its outer wall to the porch. Behind the library is the main stairway and behind it is a storage closet with a door to the hall. Across the hall are two rooms, in front is a living room (15' x 17'4") and behind it is a dining room

(14'10" x 18'7") which opens into the hall and into a pantry to the north (See HABS photo # KS-54-I-7). A set of large 4' x 7 1/2' wooden paneled doors slide into the wall between the living room and dining room. Behind the pantry is the kitchen with a door on its west wall to the back stairway and an entrance to the hall to the south. The main stairway rises into a second floor T-shape hall. Down the south arm to the east and west are bedrooms, straight ahead is a bathroom. Opposite the stairway on the east is another bedroom and adjoining it is a bathroom. On the T's north arm to the west is a back stairway and a storage closet that opens into the hall. The back stairway to the attic opens into the main area in the rear wing. To the south are bedrooms to either side of a hall, each with sloping ceilings, and a bathroom centrally located against the facade wall. The rear stairway opens into a basement hall, east is a laundry room which opens into a cellar room to the south. The hall opens to the south into another room.

2. Stairways: Building # 162 has two open stairways, a main front stair and a back stair. The front stair is a double-flight between the first and second stories only while the back stair goes into the attic and basement. Both have the same wooden turned balustrade and a squared beveled newel post, with a flat block top, and squared bull's eye impressions resting on a block base. There are decorative brackets to the side of the steps.
3. Flooring: Building # 162 has yellow pine narrow width floor boards, post-World War II.
4. Wall and ceiling finish: The walls and ceilings are plastered and painted white with no decorative details except for the picture molding which appears approximately sixteen inches below the ceiling in all rooms except the bath and kitchen.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: Around the front entry is a plain architrave molding with a thick bank of trim on the inner edge and stepped on the outer edge and an architrave molding across the top. The entry doors have two vertical lights above and two horizontal panels below. Above there are four-light operable transoms (See HABS photo # KS-54-I-6). Entries between the hall and living room and between the living room and the dining room have double doors that slide into the wall, both with the same moldings as the front doors. The second story bedroom doorways have a flat plain board surround with an architrave trim. There is a workable transom above the door joining the east bedrooms. All other doors throughout the house have five horizontal panels.

- b. Windows: First and second floor windows are surrounded by a plain wide board molding with a slight upper overhang with ovolo moldings on the top and bottom. All windows are deep set with plain wide wooden sills. Attic windows have plain flat board moldings and are low to the ground.
6. Decorative features and trim: The baseboards in the main block of the first story are wide plain boards painted white with an inverted ovolo molding along the floor and another strip of narrow ovolo molding above. Second story baseboards are plain flat boards about five inches wide. There is a picture molding sixteen inches below the ceiling in all rooms and hallways. There is a built-in "side board" China cabinet in the dining room along its north wall, right of the pantry entry, of plain, white frame construction with drawers below and shelves above, with two glass doors and a cornice-like overhanging top (See HABS photo # KS-54-I-7). In the library there is a built-in bookcase along the north wall, about three and a half feet high and five feet long. The kitchen and pantry have plain frame built-in cabinets, painted white and have double glass doors with a cornice-like overhanging molding on top. Below are drawers. The living room fireplace has a white glazed tile surround and hearth with a thick four-inch wooden mantel supported by five plain rounded wooden brackets. The black iron chimney piece (boarder of opening on all three sides) has decorative corners and an iron grate and a white wood backboard with a cornice-like shelf molding (See HABS photo # KS-54-I-8). The dining room fireplace has a white glazed tile hearth and white surrounds with a white wooden mantel supported by modern black wrought-iron brackets. There is a plain mantel and backboard, and a cast-iron grate and a similarly decorated chimney piece (See HABS photos # KS-54-I-7 & 8). The library's fireplace has the same surround with a greenish-blackish tiled hearth, and black iron chimney piece. Heavy modern wrought-iron brackets support the plain square mantel. The master bedroom fireplace has a plain white tiled hearth with two bands of vertical trim on either side, the same chimney piece and a plain bracketed mantel. Above the mantel is a mirror surrounded by a carved wooden frame with a cornice-like top. There is a plain wooden telephone niche in the second floor hall opposite the stairs.
7. Hardware: Throughout Building # 162 are plain brass unpainted doorknobs and doorplates. Above the doors in the bedrooms on the second floor are operable three-light transoms. The doors in the rear kitchen wing all have modern hardware.

8. Mechanical equipment:

- a. Heating: Building # 162 is steam heated by radiators in each room. These radiators have a decorative floral pattern and are painted white. Steam heat was introduced to Fort Riley in 1889 when it was piped to each house from the steam heat plant located in Building # 72. The system was made of seven boilers and pump-room, served eighty-three buildings, and consumed sixteen to fifteen tons of coal per day. Around the turn of the century individual boilers were placed in each building ("the Cavalry Post at Fort Riley," Journal of the United State Cavalry Association, Vol. 13 (1902-03), pp. 118-119.)
- b. Lighting: Electric lights were introduced to Fort Riley around 1903. That year the Electric Railway, Light, and Ice company of Junction City was contracted by the army to provide current for the fort's buildings. The army laid wires under the ground and the quarters and barracks were lit with a total of 6,000 incandescent lamps. (Junction City Union, January 30, May 1, 1903).

D. Site:

Building # 162 is situated near the top of the half-circle of residences on Schofield Circle, all of which are angled slightly towards a point at the center of the artillery parade, which they overlook (See HABS photos # KS-54-6 & 7). The lay-out of these buildings along Schofield Circle was part of Capt. George E. Pond's 1880's plan for the enlargement of Fort Riley after it became a school for the training of cavalry and light artillery soldiers and thus, represents an entire restructuring of the original lay-out of the fort (see Supplemental Material # 1). Because the site rests on a slight incline, the residence commands an excellent view of the parade and of the rolling hills in the distance (See HABS photo # KS-54-2). The house itself faces southwest on its lot, with large shade trees all around (See HABS photo # KS-54-I-1). There is a small rear street that may at one time have been an alley and today is a service street. Next door to the house is Building # 100, the Artillery Commander's residence (See HABS photo # KS-54-4).

PART III: SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- A. Architectural Drawings: See description in "Original Plans and Construction."

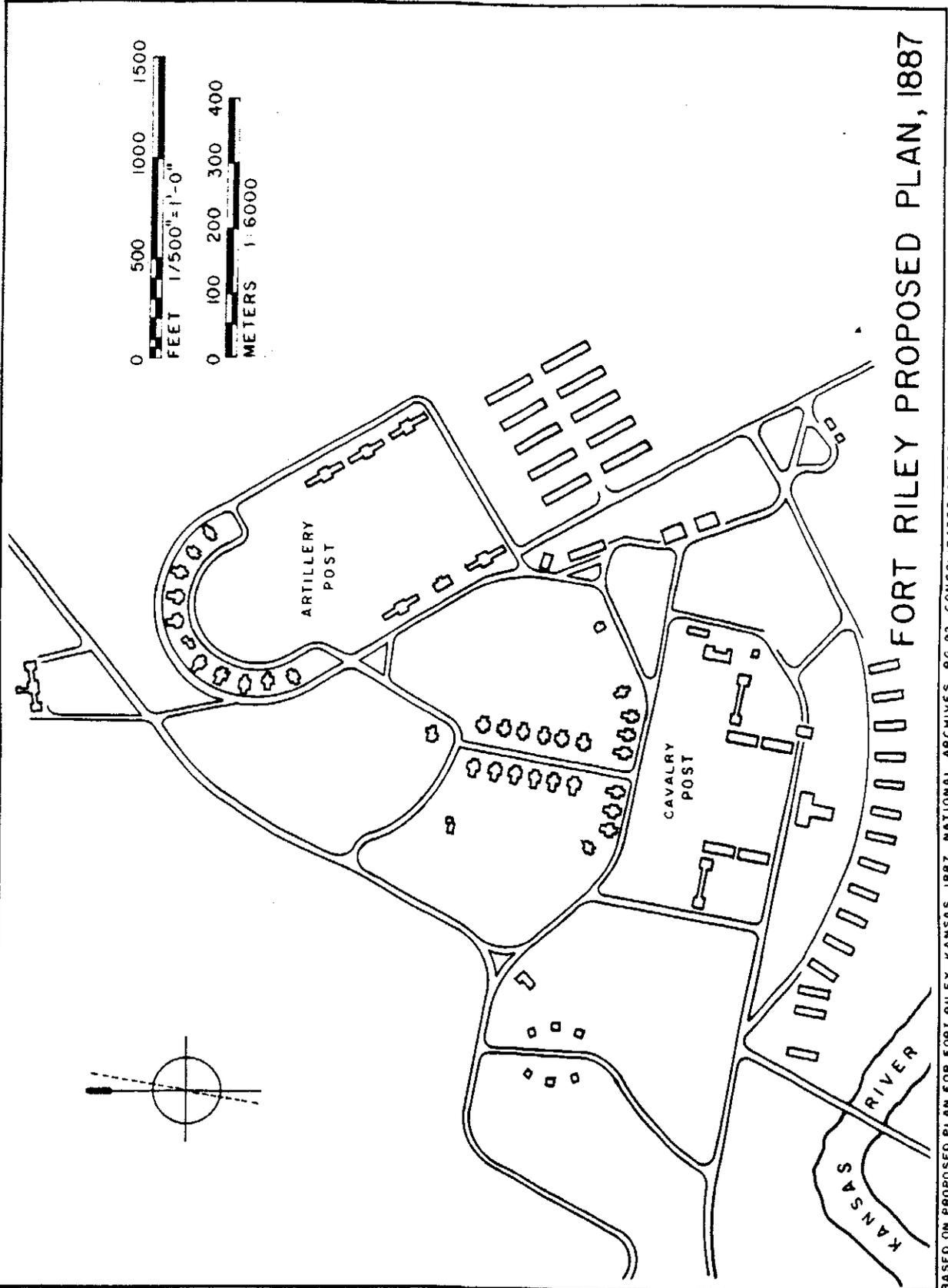
- B. Early Views: Circa. 1930 photograph in the Engineer's Historical Record Book, DEH, Fort Riley; Circa. 1950's photograph of # 162 Schofield Circle from the collection at the U.S. Cavalry Museum, Fort Riley.
- C. Bibliography:
1. Primary sources:
 - a. "The Cavalry Post at Fort Riley," Journal of the United States Cavalry Association, Vol. 13 (1902-03), pp. 118-128.
 - b. Junction City Union, bound copies available at the Geary County Museum, microfilm copies available at the Junction City Public Library.
 2. Secondary sources:
 - a. Engineer's Historical Record Book and Real Property Cards, DEH.
 - b. Cyril M. Harris, ed. Historic Architecture Sourcebook. New York, 1977.
 - c. W.F. Pride, The History of Fort Riley, 1926.

Prepared by:

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National Park Service
Summer 1985

D. Supplemental Material
1. Fort Riley, Proposed Plan, 1887

PROPOSED PLAN, 1887 AND SITE PLAN, 1985



BASED ON PROPOSED PLAN FOR FORT RILEY, KANSAS, 1887. NATIONAL ARCHIVES, RG 92, CONSOLIDATED CORRESPONDENCE FILES, BOX 915.

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) of the National Park Service in agreement with the post commander of Fort Riley, Kansas, and the headquarters of the United States Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C. The project was completed under the general supervision of Robert J. Kapsch, Chief of the HABS/HAER Division. Sally Kress Tompkins served as Program Coordinator and Robie S. Lange as Project Leader. The Field Supervisor was James A. Glass (historian, Cornell University). The project historians were Catherine Crawford (University of Maryland) and Joseph Rodriguez (University of California). Large format photography was conducted by Mike Whye. Documentation was prepared for transmittal to the Library of Congress by Catherine Crawford.